

Fatima Mann Biography

Fatima Mann is a cofounder and Executive Director of Counter Balance: ATX, a 501c3 grassroots organization created to assist combat systems not people through policy reform, community engagement, and self-care initiatives. She is currently a rising third-year law student at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This past summer Fatima was selected to serve in the 2017 Texas Legislative Internship Program (TLIP) created by Rodney Ellis. While in the TLIP program, she served as a community consultant regarding a number of bills, most notably the Sandra Bland Act written by Texas Representative Garnet Coleman.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science, with a minor in Africana Studies, from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She selflessly served as an AmeriCorps VISTA member in Wilmington, North Carolina, and Austin, Texas. In February 2014, Fatima co-founded the Austin Justice Coalition (AJC) and remained at that organization until September 2016. While at AJC, she was one of the main facilitators of the July 2015 Sandra Bland Vigil; she co-facilitated the [name] SXSW panel; contributed to the Austin Police Department's body-worn camera policy while planning and executing city-wide marches, vigils, events, and other programs.. Fatima has gained notoriety for her passionate public speaking skills at various demonstrations regarding critical social justice issues, numerous panels and community forums, and major conferences statewide. Through her work with AJC, Fatima decided to pursue her passion to elevate the voices and needs of self-identifying women within her community, particularly regarding police brutality, healthcare, and policy change.

Most recently, Fatima made an appearance of on PBS as a presenter for Blackacademics; co-facilitated the African Diaspora Women Summit at Huston-Tillotson University; and was nominated for the 40 Under 40 Award in Austin, Texas. She continues her work as a community advocate for equity and inclusion by facilitating panels, trainings, and discussions on the use activism when effectuating policy change. As she completes her final year in law school, she continues to work remotely on a number of Austin's most important issues including: City of Austin's meet and confer agreement and was appointed by the Mayor to the Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequalities Taskforce, which recently released its 2017 Final Report. She continuously advocates for policy that's assists all parties impacted; those who enforce the law and those who's regulated by it.